

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
 IPC 7 A63B23/12

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 A63B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 429 140 A (BURDEA ET AL) 4 July 1995 (1995-07-04) column 3, line 3 - column 5, line 10; figures 1-3	1-9
X	US 5 791 351 A (CURCHOD ET AL) 11 August 1998 (1998-08-11) abstract; figure 2	1-7
X	WO 01/08755 A (SMITH & NEPHEW PLC; GRANVILLE, NICHOLAS, WILLIAM; POUNDER, NEILL, MALC) 8 February 2001 (2001-02-08) the whole document	1-9
A	US 5 241 952 A (ORTIZ ET AL) 7 September 1993 (1993-09-07) the whole document	1

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

## \* Special categories of cited documents:

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- \* & \* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

3 February 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

16/02/2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA

 European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2  
 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk  
 Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,  
 Fax (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Jekabsons, A

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 5429140	A	04-07-1995	NONE	
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